REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated November 15, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Response, claims 18 and 28 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 18-41 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and objection in view of the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claim 28 is objected to because of an informality. Applicant thanks the Examiner for identifying the error. Claim 28 has been amended to correct the informality. Accordingly, the objection is overcome. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 18-21, 23-29, 31-36 and 39-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,649,934, issued to Song et al. (hereafter "Song '934") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,990,986, issued to Song et al. (hereafter "Song '986") and U.S. Patent No. 6,577,368, issued to Yuh et al. (hereafter "Yuh"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because neither Song '934. Song '986, nor Yuh, analyzed alone or in any combination, teaches or suggests the combined features recited in the claims of the present application. In particular, Song '934, Song '986 and Yuh fail to teach an in-plane switching mode liquid crystal display (LCD) device that includes, "source or drain electrodes on the pixel electrode, the source or drain electrodes being connected with the pixel electrode at an overlap of the source or drain electrodes and an end portion of the buffer layer" as recited in independent claim 18 of the present application.

Song '934, Song '986 and Yuh also fail to teach a method for manufacturing an in-plane switching mode liquid crystal display (LCD) device that includes "forming a source or drain electrode on the pixel electrode, the source or drain electrodes being connected with the pixel electrode at an overlap of the source or drain electrodes and an end portion of the buffer layer" as recited in independent claim 28 of the present application.

The Office Action concedes on page 3 that Song '934 fails to disclose "a buffer layer formed on the ohmic contact layer and a common electrode on the passivation layer substantially parallel to the pixel electrode". To remedy these deficient teachings of Song '934, the Office Action relies upon the teachings of Song '986 and Yuh. Specifically, the Office Action relies upon the teachings of the buffer layers 51 and 52 (FIG. 3) of Song '986 to remedy the deficient teachings of a buffer layer in Song '934. And, the Office Action relies upon FIG. 1 and FIG. 2 of Yuh to remedy the deficient teachings of a common electrode on the passivation layer substantially parallel to the pixel electrode in Song '934.

Based upon the teachings of Song '986 and Yuh, the Office Action concludes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the device and method for manufacturing of Song '934 to obtain a LCD device and method for manufacturing that includes all the recited features in the claims of the present application. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant submits Song '986 and Yuh fail to teach "source or drain electrodes on the pixel electrode, the source or drain electrodes being connected with the pixel electrode at an overlap of the source or drain electrodes and an end portion of the buffer layer", as recited in independent claim 18. Song '986 and Yuh also fail to teach "forming a source or drain electrode on the pixel electrode, the source or drain electrodes being connected with the pixel electrode at an overlap of the source or drain electrodes and an end portion of the buffer layer", as recited in independent claim 28. Because Song '986 and Yuh fail to teach or suggest these features of claims 18 and 28, no combination of Song '934, Song '986 and Yuh would provide a LCD device and method for manufacturing that includes "the source or drain electrodes being connected with the pixel electrode at an overlap of the source or drain electrodes and an end portion of the buffer layer" as recited in independent claims 18 and 28 of the present application. As such, claim 18 and its dependent claims 19-21 and 23-27, and claim 28 and its dependent claims 29, 31-36 and 39-41 are allowable over any combination of Song '934, Song '986 and Yuh. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 22, 33, 37 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Song '934 in view of Song '986 and Yuh, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,529,251, issued to Hibino et al. (hereafter "Hibino"). Applicant traverses the

rejection because neither Song '934, Song '986, Yuh nor Hibino, analyzed alone or in any combination, teaches or suggests the combined features recited in the claims of the present application. In particular, Song '934, Song '986, Yuh and Hibino fail to teach an in-plane switching mode liquid crystal display (LCD) device that includes, "source or drain electrodes on the pixel electrode, the source or drain electrodes being connected with the pixel electrode at an overlap of the source or drain electrodes and an end portion of the buffer layer" as recited in independent claim 18 from which claim 22 depends.

Song '934, Song '986, Yuh and Hibino also fail to teach a method for manufacturing an in-plane switching mode liquid crystal display (LCD) device that includes, "forming a source or drain electrode on the pixel electrode, the source or drain electrodes being connected with the pixel electrode at an overlap of the source or drain electrodes and an overlap of the source or drain electrodes and an end portion of the buffer layer" as recited in independent claim 28, from which claims 30, 37 and 38 depend.

Hibino teaches a two-layered source electrode 19 "composed of an TiN film (first source electrode layer) 20 and an Al film (second source electrode layer) 21" (col. 5, lines 59-62). However, Hibino fails to teach "the source or drain electrodes being connected with the pixel electrode at an overlap of the source or drain electrodes and an end portion of the buffer layer" as recited in independent claims 18 and 28 of the present application.

As discussed above, Song '934, Song '986 and Yuh fail to teach this feature of claims 18 and 28. Because Hibino also does not teach this feature, no combination of Song '934, Song '986, Yuh and Hibino would provide a LCD device and method for manufacturing having all the features recited in independent claims 18 and 28. Accordingly, claim 18 and its dependent claim 22, and claim 28 and its dependent claims 30, 37 and 38 are allowable over any combination of Song '934, Song '986, Yuh and Hibino.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments and remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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